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PATENT

Customer Number 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 08098.0010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dennis MENDIOLA et al.

Application No.: 09/846,376

Filed: May 2, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR

TRACKING THE ONLINE

STATUS OF ACTIVE USERS OF

AND INTERNET-BASED

INSTANT MESSAGING SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

-7,

Group Art Unit: 2152

Examiner: Unassigned

PKCKI VED SEARCH STONE S

SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in search reports from the International Searching Authority of the European Patent Office in counterpart international applications. Copies of these search reports are also attached.

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U.S. Application No. 09/846,376 Attorney Docket No. 08098.0010

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 19, 2001

R. Bruce Bower

Reg. No. 37,099



Rechnologice Res 200 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. Technology Center 2700

on September 19, 2001

Date

John Hudalla

Enclosures:

- Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), 2 pgs 1.
- 2. PTO Form 1449, 1 pg
- 3 references (copies attached) 3.
- Three International Search Reports (2 pgs. ea.) 4.
- Certificate of Mailing 1.8 5.



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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
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 Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
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Examiner		Date Considered			
*Examiner:		erence considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line tation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next ation to applicant.			
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